

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4606

August 22, 2020

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

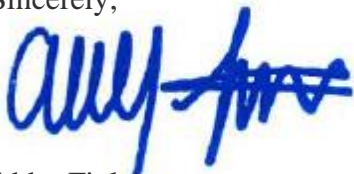
Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

I write to urge you to reverse any changes made, and prevent any future changes, that will impact the standards of service at the United States Postal Service. The postal service is a lifeline for northeast Iowans. Changes that began under your leadership that impact mail delivery, including the removal of mail sorting machines, are unacceptable and harm my constituents at a time when they are already facing unprecedented challenges.

The Waterloo Post Office in Northeast Iowa is one of the locations across the country where mail sorting machinery has been removed this year, hampering the timely delivery of mail. It is my understanding that while five machines remain in operation in Waterloo, the sorting machine that was removed is capable of sorting 35,000 units of mail per hour.¹ Reports have indicated that its removal has slowed the delivery of mail, and even made postal operations less flexible to respond to increases in the quantity of mail.² The postal service is essential to ensuring folks in Waterloo receive medications, paychecks, and critical supplies in a timely fashion. Reducing the postal service's operational capacity and flexibility, including through the removal of mail sorting machines, is not what Iowans expect or deserve from your leadership.

While the House of Representatives has now passed the *Delivering for America Act*, which would require the machines to be reinstated, I am asking that you act out of your own accord and reverse these changes immediately. This is not a partisan issue nor should it require an act of Congress. I hope that you will restore effective mail delivery for our communities, our small businesses, and our people, and I will do everything I can to ensure the postal service remains in a strong position to deliver for Iowans.

Sincerely,



Abby Finkenauer
Member of Congress

¹ Kristin Guess, "Equipment removal from Waterloo Post Office sparks Saturday protest," Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier, August 21, 2020.

² Ibid.; Aaron Gordon, "The Post Office Is Deactivating Mail Sorting Machines Ahead of the Election," VICE, August 13, 2020.